

Health Risks Among Rhode Island Adults in 2000

Rhode Island Department of Health
Office of Health Statistics
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Introduction

This brief summary presents information on health risk behaviors reported in 2000 among Rhode Island adults, based on data from the Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Survey (BRFS).

The BRFS is administered in all 50 States and 4 U.S. territories with funding and specifications from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) as part of the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). The BRFSS monitors the prevalence of behavioral risk factors that contribute to the leading causes of sickness (morbidity) and death (mortality) among adults 18 years and older in the United States. Rhode Island has participated in the BRFSS since 1984.

From January through December 2000, the Rhode Island BRFS conducted approximately 295 telephone interviews each month, for a total of 3,544 interviews for the calendar year.

This report addresses fourteen major health risks among Rhode Island adults in 2000. The data are also presented by gender and by urban/non-urban residence.



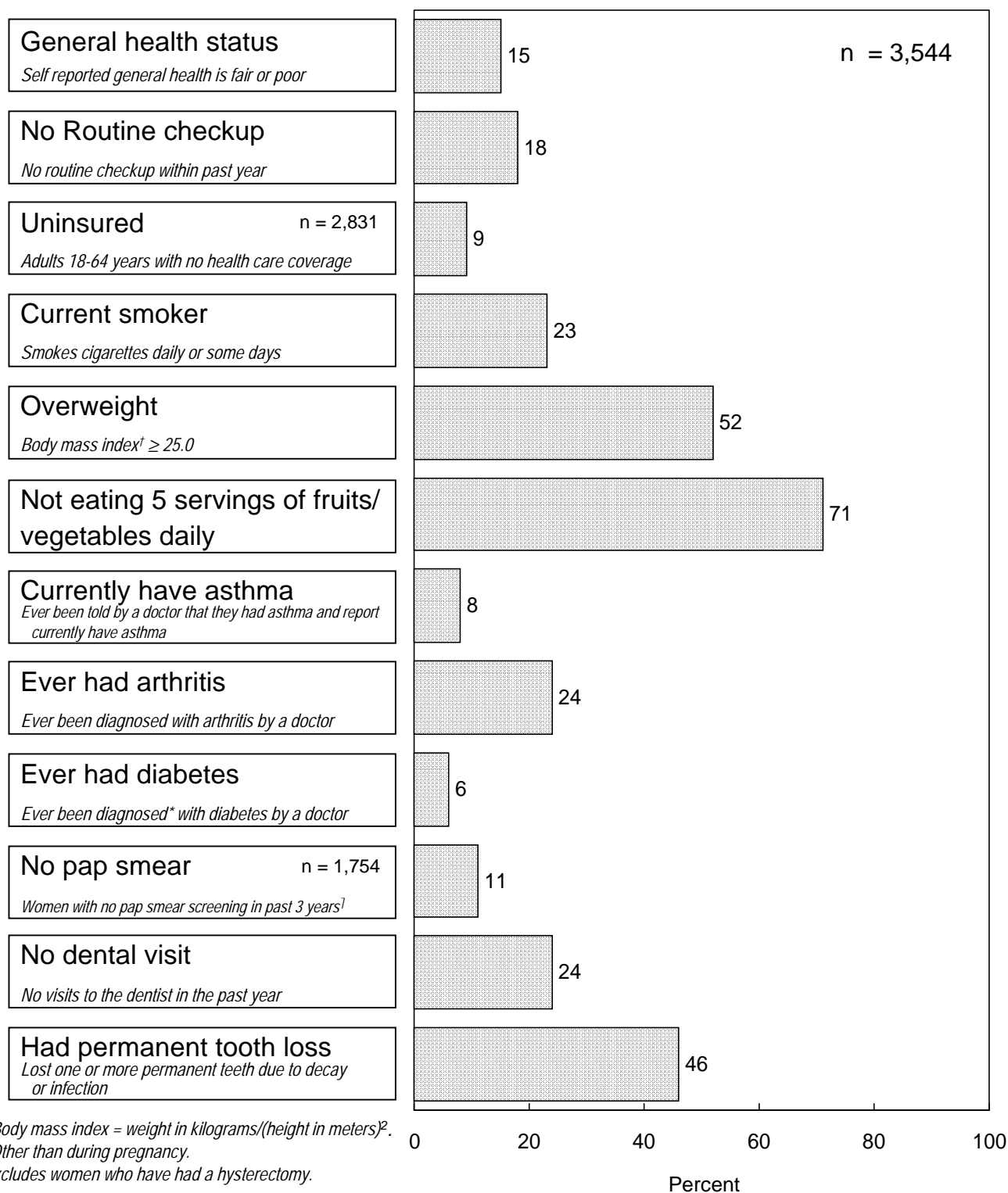
Highlights

- ◆ More than 1 in 5 Rhode Island adults are current smokers (23%), more than 1 in 2 are overweight (52%) and 9% of adults aged 18-64 years are uninsured (Figure 1).
- ◆ Men have higher rates of health risk behaviors than women – men are almost 2 times more likely than women to have had no routine checkup within the past year, 1.5 times more likely to be overweight, more likely to not have seen a dentist in the past year, and more likely to not be eating at least 5 servings of fruits/vegetables per day (Figure 2).
- ◆ Women have more health problems than men. Women are more likely than men to ever have been diagnosed with arthritis, more likely to report their general health status as fair or poor, and more likely to have asthma (Figure 2).
- ◆ Residents of urban areas have higher rates for most health risk behaviors and health problems than those in non-urban areas— including fair or poor general health status, no dentist visit in the past year, and no routine checkup in the past year. However, non-urban residents are more likely than urban residents to have ever been diagnosed with arthritis and to have experienced at least one permanent tooth loss due to decay or infection (Figure 3).

This work was funded in part by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Cooperative Agreement #U58/CCU100589-18 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. This report and other Rhode Island BRFSS data are available on the Rhode Island Department of Health web site: <http://www.healthri.org>. For more information on survey methodology, definitions of health risks, or national or state data, visit the BRFSS web site <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/brfss> or contact the Office of Health Statistics, Rhode Island Department of Health (Phone: 401-222-2550). This report was prepared by Colleen M. Ryan, M.P.H. and Jana E. Hesser, Ph.D.

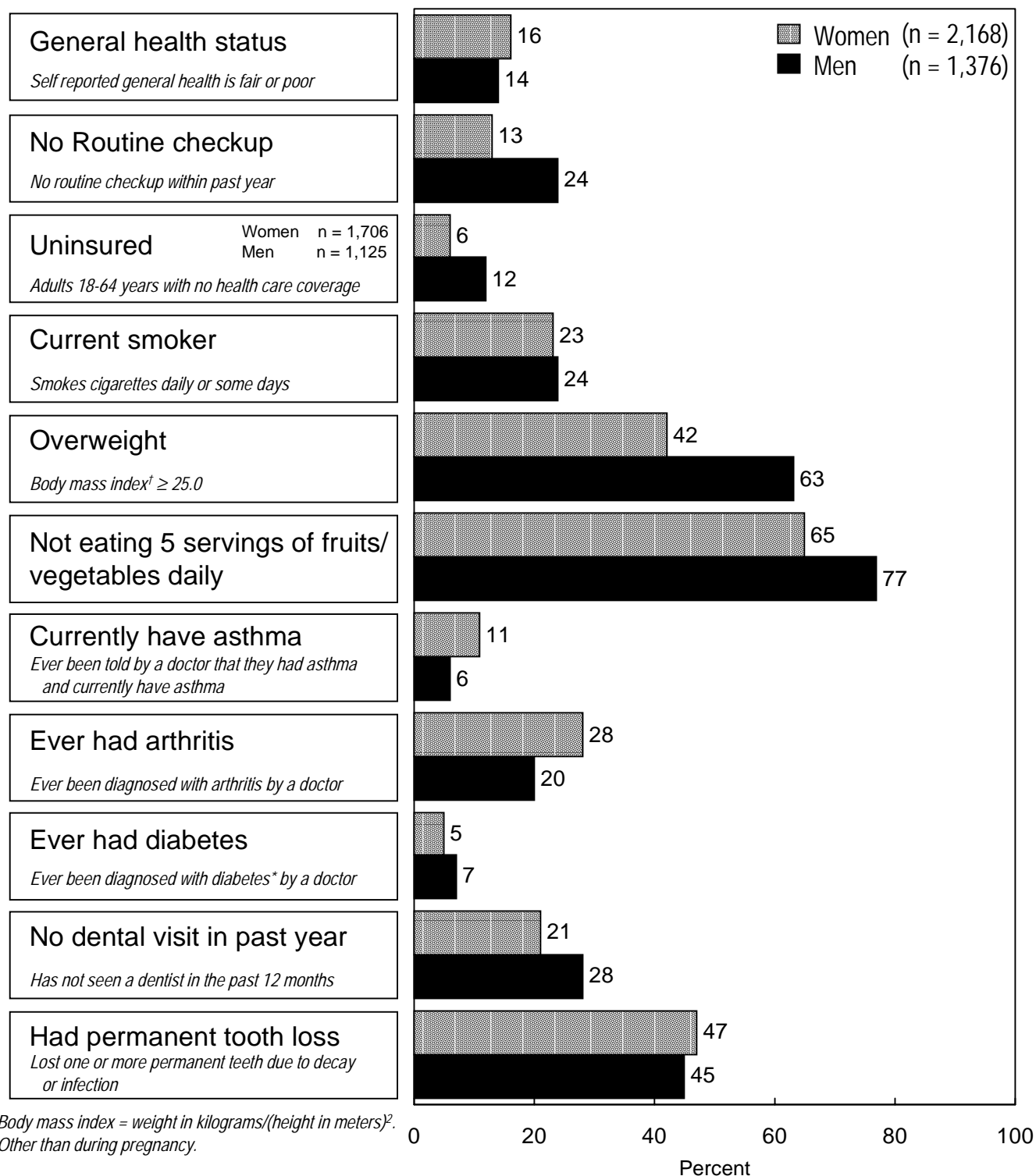
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Figure 1. Health Risks Among Rhode Island Adults 18 Years and Older, 2000.



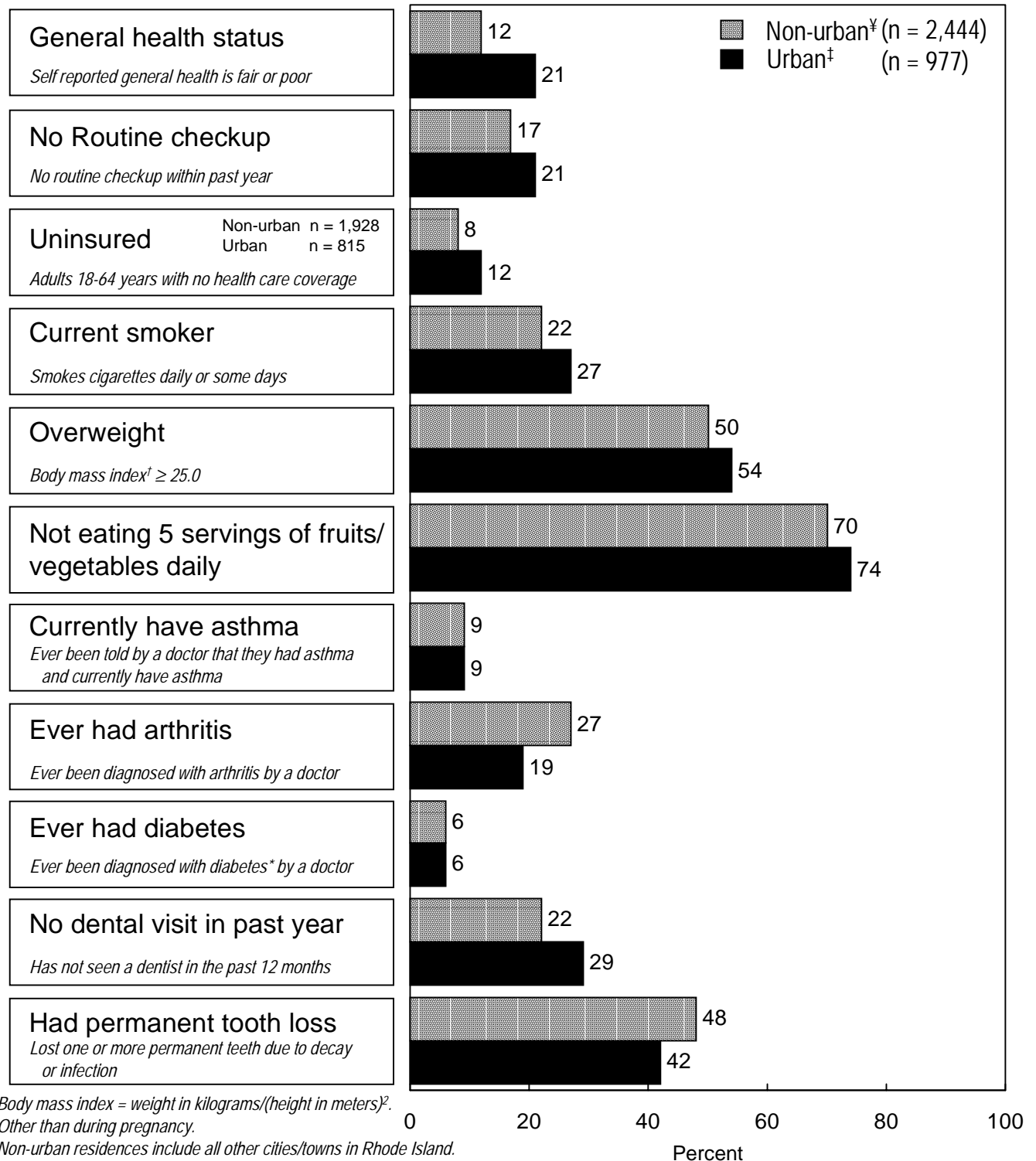
Data Source: 2000 Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, Rhode Island Department of Health.

Figure 2. Health Risks Among Rhode Island Adults 18 Years and Older by Gender, 2000.



Data Source: 2000 Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, Rhode Island Department of Health.

Figure 3. Health Risks Among Rhode Island Adults 18 Years and Older by Urban Residence, 2000.



Data Source: 2000 Rhode Island Behavioral Risk Factor Survey, Rhode Island Department of Health.